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First Florida Record of 'Taphromysis louisianae' (Crustacea: Mysidacea)

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16. ABSTRACT
First sighting of the mysid shrimp Taphromysis louisianae Banner, 1953, is reported from Milton, Florida in November 1978 and January 1979 in the Blackwater River estuary. The known range of this species is extended approximately 550 km eastward.

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Short Papers and Notes:

FIRST FLORIDA RECORD OF *Taphromysis louisianae* (CRUSTACEA: MYSIDACEA) [1]

Several thousand mysid shrimp *Taphromysis louisianae* Banner, 1953, were collected in November, 1978 and January, 1979 in the Blackwater River estuary near Milton, Florida. They are the first record of *Taphromysis louisianae* from Florida and constitute an eastward range extension of approximately 550 km.

The mysids were collected in November at two locations. Collection was made with 17 cm x 25 cm hand-held dip nets (mesh size approximately 1 mm). The first site was in Wright Basin, Blackwater River, approximately 3.2 km upstream from the U.S. Highway 90 bridge; depth was less than one meter; salinity, approximately 1 ‰; water temperature, 21°C.; the substratum was mud with much organic detritus covered by algae and emergent plants. The second collection site was downstream between the U.S. Highway 90 bridge and the railroad trestle adjacent to the city of Milton. Salinity was approximately 3 ‰; water temperature, 21.3°C.; the substratum was mud and sand covered by algae. The mysids were collected near the riverbank at a depth of less than one meter. Specimens collected at these locations totalled 500 mysids of both sexes and various stages.

January, 1979 collections were made at the second site of the previous November. Salinity was 2 ‰; water temperature, 13°C.; water depth, less than one meter; the substratum, mud and sand. Approximately 3,000 juvenile *T. louisianae* of a synchronous age group were collected, but sexes were not discernible due to immaturity.

T. louisianae was described by Banner (1953) from a static, freshwater, roadside ditch near Gueydan, Vermilion Parish, Louisiana. Conte (1972) collected *T. louisianae*, in Texas, from Oyster Lake in 1967, 1968 and 1969 and Alligator Lake in 1967 and 1968. Macklin (1971) (cited by Price, 1976) found *T. louisianae* in the Lavaca River, Texas. *T. louisianae* was also reported from upper Galveston Bay, Texas (Kalke, 1972, cited by Price, 1976).

It appears that *T. louisianae*, which was first collected in freshwater (Banner, 1953), is a brackish water species whose peak abundances occur in the low salinity, brackish-water areas of the estuary. Conte (1972) found that the average salinity in Alligator Lake, Texas during peak sampling abundance of *T. louisianae* was 11.3 ‰, but found no peaks of sampling abundance in Oyster Lake, Texas, an area of "higher salinity". Price (1976) found no specimens of *T. louisianae* in his sampling location near Galveston Island, Texas, where salinities, for the most part, were greater than 15‰. Macklin (1971) and Kalke (1972) (cited by Price, 1976) found *T. louisianae* in areas persumedly of low salinities. Our efforts to collect *T. louisianae have been successful only in the* lower salinity (less than 4 ‰) areas of the Blackwater River estuary.

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[1] Gulf Breeze Contribution Number 393

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